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JOB NO. \_\_\_\_\_ BOX NO. \_\_\_\_\_ FLD NO. \_\_\_\_\_ DOC. NO. 10 NO CHANGE  
 IN CLASS/ DECLASS/ CLASS CHANGED TO: TS S RET. JUST. 22  
 NEXT REV DATE 189 REV DATE 5-7-79 REVIEWER 235932 TYPE DOC. 02  
 NO. PGS 4 CREATION DATE \_\_\_\_\_ ORG COMP 008 OPI \_\_\_\_\_ ORG CLASS S  
 REV CLASS C REV COORD. \_\_\_\_\_ AUTH: \_\_\_\_\_

18 December 1957

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Proposed Vault in Senate Office Building

This memorandum contains a recommendation submitted for approval of the Director of Central Intelligence. Such recommendation is contained in paragraph 4.

1. In reviewing Colonel Edwards' memorandum of 12 December 1957, it seems clear that more adequate safekeeping facilities are necessary. However, I question the wisdom of offering to do this for the Senate at our expense.

2. The present situation does raise the general question of safekeeping facilities for classified material on Capitol Hill generally. It seems highly desirable and appropriate to raise this general question with the office of the President of the Senate, pointing out the types of safeguards that are used by this Agency as well as Defense Department and other agencies and suggesting that at least equivalent physical facilities should be maintained at the Congress. We could certainly offer technical advice and assistance.

3. The Johnson Subcommittee hearings could be used as an example of extremely sensitive information from CIA and the Department of Defense being concentrated and, therefore, representing a prime target. Under these circumstances it is likely that the office of the President of the Senate and of the Speaker of the House would welcome our bringing it to their attention. There is some precedent in connection with the office of Vice President Nixon where a few years ago we provided some briefing and several safes.

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4. This matter has been discussed with Colonel Edwards and Colonel White and both of them agree with making the general approach. I would recommend that we start exploring the matter through the fortuitous circumstance of Mr. Charles K. McWhorter, Legislative Assistant to the Vice President, coming to the Agency for lunch on Thursday with Mr. Kirkpatrick and myself among others.

Att-Memo fr Security to DCI  
dtd 12 Dec 57

  
Legislative Counsel

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The recommendation in paragraph  
4 is approved.

Signed

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ALLEN W. DULLES  
Director

DEC 19 1957

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Dir/Security

Legislative Counsel

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